THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The matter has been taken up with the Editor who has clarified that the map is only indicative. This is indicated in the map itself under the caption "boundary representations are not necessarily authoritative".

(c) In view of (b) above, does not arise.

(d) The subject of inaccurate depiction of India's boundaries is constantly monitored by Government and corrective action is initiated whenever distortions are noticed.

Amount spent on maintenance of Security/ Para-Military Forces in Assam

3035. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some amount has been spent on maintenance of security/para-military forces in Assam during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) whether the Central Government make any contribution of amount towards the maintenance of forces;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the amount outstanding to be paid by Assam Government during the last five years;

(e) whether the Central Government while releasing the amount on maintenance of security/para-military forces made deductions of same against Central Grants/Grants for development sanctioned for the State; and

(f) if so, the amount released by such adjustments during the last five years, separately?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected.

Openness in Official Secrets Act, 1923

3036. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether openness is "discretionary" under the regime of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 in India and it is lagging behind several countries in the field of right to information;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and steps proposed to be taken to bring transparency in its affairs; and

(c) whether in the opinion of the Government the experience of other countries and the legislations enacted by them could serve as a model for India?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The Official Secrets Act, 1923 was enacted for protection of official secrets in our country. The Act is intended to take care of spying and espionate activities and disclosure of other secret information considered prejudicial to the interest of the State and safety and sovereignty of the country. However, in order to achieve openness and transparency in Government functioning, instructions have been issued to all the Central Ministries/Departments for taking effective steps towards this objective which includes, inter-alia, further details being furnished in replies to Parliament Questions, revamping of public relations cells in Ministries/Departments which deal with public enquiries/complaints, provisions of more information in annual reports, in institution of effective mechanism for replying to communications received from the public etc. No statute relating to Right to information, as prevalent in some other countries, has yet been enacted in this country. As the matter is both complex and sensitive, the issues involved require careful and thorough analysis which is being done.

Controlling the left extremists violence in Andhra Pradesh

3037. DR. MOHAN BABU:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance proposed to be extended for controlling the left extremists violence in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken to contain such activities in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, etc. besides Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The following funds have been released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Scheme for Modernisation of Police Forces:

Year	Amount released (in lakhs)
1994-95	104.780
1995-96	309.560
1996-97	209.560

Apart from above, an additional amount of Rs. 1 crore was released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96.

(b) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-naxalite operatons of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of naxalite activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc.

ISI smuggling in Bihar border

3038. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJI-RAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that ISI has stepped up its activities including smuggling of contraband items along the Bihar Sector and has taken steps to spread discord along the population living in the border areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Bangladeshi and Pakistani and others arrested in 1994-95 along Bihar Sector

(d) the quantity of narcotics, arms and ammunition, gold and contraband items seized alongwith the value thereof during the past three years along the Bihar Sector; and

(e) what steps have been taken to monitor and control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-utilisation of capacity of Telephone Exchanges

3039. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMCHANDRA REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity utilisation of telephone exchanges between 1991-92 and 1994-95, year-wise;

(b) the details of loss of revenue on account thereof during that period, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for not fully utilising the exchanges;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Capacity utilisation of telephone exchanges between 1991-92 and 1994-95, yearwise is as given below:

Year	% age of capacity utilisation
1991-92	85.68
1992-93	85.30
1993-94	81.93
1994-95	81.46

(b) There is no revenue loss as the targets set for providing the telephone connections were achieved.

(c) Reasons for not utilising the exchanges fully are given in the enclosed statement: (*See* below).

(d) and (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Statement

The reasons for not utilising the exchanges fully

(i) Need to reserve some switching capacity to meet the emergency requirements of providing temporary